

BUSSEI SCRIPT

2929 Market Street, San Diego, California 92102 Web: www.btsd.net E-mail: info@btsd.net Phone: 619-239-0896

VOLUME CXXI NO. 10

OCTOBER 2011

THE FIRST STEP TO THE TRUTH (Part 2)

By Rev. Yushi Mukojima, Resident Minister

As mentioned in my September Dharma message, our temple celebrates the 85th Anniversary of its founding this year. We have invited Socho Koshin Ogui to conduct both the commemorative service and the Kieshiki Affirmation Ceremony on October 16.

This anniversary is a perfect opportunity for us to express our deepest feelings of gratitude for the great dedication of all of our predecessors who have been caretakers of our temple for the benefit of those of us here today. Even though we may not know each individual who came before us, they are very much a part of our Karma. Those who helped build and maintain our beautiful temple over the past 85 years have made possible this opportunity to come together and listen to the Nembutsu teaching. Therefore, at this special service, we should acknowledge all past efforts and sacrifices that allow us to be here today. Remembering their loving guidance, I sincerely hope that we will also pledge to do our best to continue the caretaking of our treasured temple so that in turn we, too, can hand over to our children and grandchildren the precious Nembutsu teaching.

To mark this anniversary, we have taken on a great project—to create a Service Book, led by Dharma School, for use at our Temple. I hope that our Sangha members will be able to see it very soon, because its publication will be a great achievement in Temple history. I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude for the commitment and hard work of all the committee members who made this important project possible.

Reflections on Shoma, a Myokonin

You may recall in the September newsletter I wrote about my Tokudo ordination experience. By sharing my experience of receiving the rite of the razor from Gomonshu, head abbot of our sect, I hoped to encourage as many of you as possible to participate in the Kieshiki Affirmation. The ceremony's history goes back more than 2,500 years to the founder of Buddhism, Shakyamuni Buddha, who bestowed Buddhist names upon his disciples.

Speaking of the Kikyoshiki confirmation ceremony (conducted by the Gomonshu), I can't help but remember the anecdote about Shoma (1799–1871) who was known as a Myokonin or superior Nembutsu follower.

Shoma was born into a poor sharecropping family. He worked very hard making ropes and Japanese sandals while baby-sitting. Although he never married, he cultivated a small field and worked at the temple as a handyman.

One day, for the first time, he made a pilgrimage to Kyoto with some members of his temple to what was at the time the mother temple, Kosho Temple, to participate in a Kikyoshiki confirmation ceremony. (Kosho Temple, which formally became independent as one of the ten Jodo Shinshu sects after 1870, belonged to our sect, the Hongwanji-ha, in those days). Gomonshu is the highest priest in Jodo Shinshu Buddhism. In those days, he was treated like an emperor, and it was forbidden to look at his eyes or say anything to him.

That day, as was usual, many Nembutsu followers had come to the mother temple from all over Japan to participate in the Kikyoshiki. They were waiting quietly in the Hondo for the ceremony to begin. Then Gomonshu appeared ceremoniously before them and began administering the rites to each man, who bowed his head solemnly.

Gomonshu completed the rites to Shoma, tapping the razor on Shoma's head gently three times, saying, "Take refuge in Buddha, take refuge in Dharma, and take refuge in Sangha." Gomonshu was moving to the next follower when Shoma suddenly reached up and tugged on Gomonshu's colorful sleeve. When Gomonshu turned around to see who had touched his robe, Shoma asked him, "Hey, brother. Are you prepared to go?"

That moment, the solemn atmosphere in the Hondo broke and the participants were struck dumb at this rude interruption. But Gomonshu simply continued calmly with the rites for each of the remaining followers in attendance.

After the ceremony when Gomonshu had made his exit from the Hondo, the other participants crowded around Shoma and scolded him. "Know your place! You were terribly rude!" It had caused quite a commotion in the Hondo.

Everyone was worried about how Shoma would be punished for his misdeed. An associate priest entered the Hondo and asked, "Who tugged on the Gomonshu's sleeve? Stand and come with me."

Although Shoma paid no attention to the command, pretending not to hear it, his friends answered fearfully, "He is a really stupid fellow, so please forgive him for his crude behavior." Then they apologized, bowing deeply many times.

The associate priest accepted their excuse and told Gomonshu of their apology. But Gomonshu said, "It doesn't matter. Just bring him here to me right now." So the priest hurried back to the Hondo.

Finally, Shoma was taken to the room where Gomonshu sat waiting. But Shoma looked calm and entered the room nonchalantly. Because he lacked manners, he didn't bow in reverence to Gomonshu but instead plopped down in front of him on the tatami mat, crossing his legs. They had the following conversation.

"Was it you who tugged on my sleeve?" asked Gomonshu.

"Yeah, it was me," said Shoma.

"What were you thinking about when you did so?" asked Gomonshu.

"Ah...even with such a red beautiful robe, you cannot escape hell by wearing it," Shoma explained. "That's why I asked if you were prepared to go."

"Yes, that's what I wanted to hear and that's why I asked you here. There are so many who revere me but it was only you who showed concern for my afterlife. So I would like to thank you. By the way, have you already received Shinjin, the entrusting mind?" asked Gomonshu.

"Oh, yeah! I have received it," said Shoma.

"Since you say so, explain to me briefly what it means to gain Shinjin?" asked Gomonshu.

"It is nothing at all," answered Shoma.

"Ah...then with that you are prepared for your afterlife?" asked Gomonshu.

"I don't know anything about my afterlife," Shoma answered.

"Without knowing, do you think you will attain birth in the Pure Land?" asked Gomonshu.

"If you want to know that, you should ask my boss," answered Shoma.

"Who is your boss?" asked Gomonshu.

"That is Amida Buddha who is enshrined in this Hall. To attain my birth is not my job. No sense asking me about it," said Shoma.

(Sensei's Message: Continued on Page 3)

OCTOBER 2011

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|
| <p>2 9 a.m. – Dharma School Staff Mtg. @Conf. Rm. 10 a.m. – DS/FAMILY SERVICE 日曜礼拝 October Shotsuki Memorial 10月祥月法要 11:30 a.m. – Jr. YBA Mtg. @Annex 1-2 11:30 a.m. – TAIKO @Annex Hall 12 p.m. – BWA Mtg. @Conference Room 1:15 p.m. – Ballroom Dancing @Annex Hall</p> | <p>3 Temple Closed</p> | <p>4 1 p.m. – Shigin 詩吟 @Annex 1.2</p> | <p>5 12 p.m. – Minyo Group 民謡 @Annex 1.2 5 p.m. – Kempo Class @Sangha Hall</p> | <p>6 12 p.m. – IRC Mtg. 6:30 p.m. – Buddhist Study Class A with Rev. Mukojima @Conf. Rm.</p> | <p>7 5 p.m. – Kempo Class @Sangha Hall 5-8 p.m. – JAHSSD Set-up</p> | <p>1 10 a.m. – Koto Class @S.H. 10 a.m. – 85th Anniversary Mtg. @Conf. Room</p> |
| <p>9 9 a.m. – DS Sutra Chanting Class @Hondo 10 a.m. – DS/FAMILY SERVICE 日曜礼拝 11:30 a.m. – TAIKO @Annex Hall 11:30 a.m. – 85th Anniversary Mtg. @Conf. Room 1:15 p.m. – Ballroom Dancing @Annex Hall</p> | <p>10 Temple Closed 7 p.m. – W&M Committee Mtg. @Conf. Rm.</p> | <p>11 1 p.m. – Shigin 詩吟 @Annex 1.2 10:30 a.m. – SD Ministers Mtg. @LA Nishi Betsuin</p> | <p>12 12 p.m. – Minyo Group 民謡 @Annex 1.2 5 p.m. – Kempo Class @Sangha Hall</p> | <p>13 6:30 p.m. – Board of Directors Mtg. @Conf. Rm.</p> | <p>14 5 p.m. – Kempo Class @Sangha Hall</p> | <p>15 10 a.m. – Koto Class @S.H. 2 p.m.-4 p.m. BEC Lecture with Socho Koshin Ogui "Shin Buddhism as a Major Religious Tradition in America" @Hondo 4:15-4:45 p.m. Kieshiki rehearsal @Hondo</p> |
| <p>16 サソデイゴ仏教会創立85周年記念式典 8:30 a.m. – Kieshiki Ceremony @Hondo 11 a.m. – Ochigo Procession @Parking lot 11:15 a.m. – 85th Anniversary Service @Hondo Guest Speaker: Socho Koshin Ogui 1 p.m. – Luncheon @Annex Hall</p> | <p>17 Temple Closed</p> | <p>18 1 p.m. – Shigin 詩吟 @Annex 1.2</p> | <p>19 12 p.m. – Minyo Group 民謡 @Annex 1.2 5 p.m. – Kempo Class @Sangha Hall</p> | <p>20</p> | <p>21 10 a.m. – Buddhist Study Class B with Rev. Yanagihara @Conf. Rm. 5 p.m. – Kempo Class @Sangha Hall</p> | <p>22 5 p.m. – DS Service @Hondo 5:30 p.m. – Helloween Party @Annex Hall</p> |
| <p>23 9 a.m. – INTRO. TO BUDDHISM @Sangha Hall 10 a.m. – FAMILY SERVICE 日曜礼拝 11:30 a.m. – TAIKO @Annex Hall 1:15 p.m. – Ballroom Dancing @Annex Hall</p> | <p>24 Temple Closed</p> | <p>25 1 p.m. – Shigin 詩吟 @Annex 1.2</p> | <p>26 12 p.m. – Minyo Group 民謡 @Annex 1.2 5 p.m. – Kempo Class @Sangha Hall 6:30 p.m. – Fundraising Mtg. @Conf. Room</p> | <p>27</p> | <p>28 5 p.m. – Kempo Class @Sangha Hall</p> | <p>29 6-9 p.m. – BTSDA/FW BINGO @Annex Hall</p> |
| <p>30 10 a.m. – DS/FAMILY SERVICE 日曜礼拝 11:30 a.m. – TAIKO @Annex Hall</p> | <p>31 Temple Closed</p> | | | | | |

(Sensei's Message: Continued from Page 1)

"Well, that's beautifully said. You are right. Our birth in the Pure Land is definitely the work of Amida Buddha. It is not our work. You are truly an honest man. Let us be brothers, and join me in a drink!" said Gomonshu.

Gomonshu, who praised Shoma for his deep understanding, asked the servants to bring sake. They had a great time exchanging cups of sake. Shoma was so loved by Gomonshu, he was allowed to see him whenever he visited Kyoto. Gomonshu gave him the Buddhist name *Shaku Sho-Ma* which means "the Buddha's disciple of Right Truth."

This anecdote explains why Shoma was called Myokonin and why many stories about him have accumulated over a long time in Jodo Shinshu. Shoma didn't know much about culture or the world. He was lacked manners, was unlettered and couldn't even count money. But that his words and deeds have been passed down is evidence of his true devotion and virtue. He was a person who receives the wisdom of Buddha.

In the letters (Gobunsho) of Rennyo Shonin, there is a saying as follows: "Those who are not concerned about their afterlife are considered to be ignorant persons, even though they may be well-versed in eighty-thousand Dharma teachings. Those who have resolved the matter of the afterlife are described as wise persons, even if they are illiterate laymen or laywomen." It is exactly those who are like Shoma that Rennyo Shonin calls all a wise person.

"It Is Nothing At All"

What I was so surprised at in the conversation between Gomonshu and Shoma was Shoma's response to the question, "Explain to me briefly what it means to gain Shinjin?" Shoma answered, "It's nothing at all." This sentence is the most important point in their conversation. It makes us realize Shoma's deep understanding of the Primal Vow.

The phrase, "It is nothing at all," seems on the surface to be an elusive answer, but there is no more wonderful and firm an expression in the teaching of Other Power.

Generally, it is easy for all people to understand the expression, "I believe strongly without doubt," in religious faith. But unfortunately, no matter how hard we try, we are never able to be totally rid of our distrust and doubts in order to have a faithful mind.

Shakyamuni Buddha explained that doubt is one of the causes of a troubled mind. He says that we are unable to throw away the selfish nature that causes a doubtful mind, so we are always suffering. As faith and doubt are always linked in our mind, we lack the strength to believe in something absolutely.

Amida Buddha understands our selfish, doubtful minds. Therefore he asks us to simply depend on Buddha's mind. We should not believe in Amida Buddha with an unreliable mind and we should discard both our faith and our doubt. When we begin to understand how incapable we are, then we begin to open our minds and hearts to receiving the Buddha's mind. To receive the Buddha's mind is called "Shinjin," the entrusting mind. With his explanation, "It's nothing at all," Shoma teaches us what it means to gain Shinjin.

To take the tonsure (symbolically shave one's head) is a commitment to try to live with the Primal Vow of Amida Buddha as one's spiritual support free of self-centeredness and the mind of conceit and arrogance. Shoma, who received the rite of the razor from Gomonshu, was a true Nembutsu follower who had already transcended the mind of calculation and was embraced by the great vow of Amida Buddha.

The ceremony marking the beginning of one's life as a Shin Buddhist is the Kieshiki affirmation. During our 85th anniversary, I sincerely hope that as many of you as possible will participate in this precious ceremony and take a first step as a true disciple of the Buddha.

But even if you are impressed with Shoma's insight, please do not tug on the Socho's sleeve and ask, "Hey brother, are you prepared to go?" *In Gassho.*

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Michael Kinoshita, Board President

October brings us to our 85th Anniversary the weekend of October 15 & 16. From the initial location at Sixth & Market in 1926, to our current location, dedicated in 1931, we are forever indebted to our Issei Buddhist pioneers as Reverend Mukojima stated in last month's message who felt a Temple was important in San Diego to worship and keep their Buddhist faith strong.

We will have a Kieshiki Affirmation conducted by Socho Koshin Ogui and a Ochigo procession as part of our Anniversary celebration.

As we celebrate our past history, I ask you to look into the future as 2012 will be here soon. Keeping the visions of our Issei pioneers, what can you do to make our Temple even more vibrant and stronger. Our Temple is a huge volunteer organization with many people taking the time and effort for its daily operation. There are many committees and activities which would welcome your input and expertise. Religious, Membership, Historical, Treasurer and Fundraising are just a few committees or Bingo Dinners, Kiku Garden Friday Senior Lunch Program and Movie Days are ongoing activities that occur during the year which you could volunteer your time. If you have interest in shaping Temple policies, becoming a Board member allows you to vote on issues pertaining to the Temple's future. Thus, there are many degrees of involvement and opportunities for you to allow our Temple to continue to spread the Buddhist teachings.

I look forward to see you and as always, feel free to write or speak to me about any concerns or issues that affect the Temple. *Gassho.*

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

Due to the power outage on September 8, the BOD meeting was canceled.

ABA NEWS

September started out with a dinner meeting at the Peking Cafe on Saturday the 3rd instead of breakfast at Jimmy's Restaurant in Chula Vista, which has closed its business. We all enjoyed the dinner, and at such an inexpensive price. We had a few people who couldn't make it, so we all took another meal home and enjoyed that, too!

On the 18th was O Higan and the potluck luncheon. We thank those who brought a dish to share. The Temple's 85th anniversary celebration will be in October, and some of us, if able, will be helping out.

Our next meeting will be a breakfast and we are going to try a new place called Mission Valley Cafe on Camino Del Rio South on Nov. 12th at 9:00 a.m. If interested, let Motoo know.

BWA NEWS

At the September 11 meeting, Mrs. Ohara thanked all the members who helped out at the July Omigaki, the Obon food sale preparations and the August 20 birthday party for Kurumi-chan. At her party the members were able to meet with Rev. Mukojima's parents visiting from Japan.

Welfare report: Mrs. Suyenaga and Mrs. Otsuji visited Madeline Clogston. She is doing well. Mrs. Ohara visited Mrs. Itami, Mrs. Yagura and Mrs. Yamamoto.

For the Asian Food & Craft Festival, the BWA will make 300 boxes of mixed sushi. The next fundraising event will be the Almond Crunch candy sale projected for the Asian Food & Festival event. There will be a second candy order placed in the beginning of December. Naomi Himaka will chair this committee.

Aki Tomiyama and Sue Moribe will represent San Diego BWA at the FBWA delegates meeting in San Jose on October 8.

Mrs. Ohara thanked Toban group A for the lunch provided at the meeting. The next meeting will be hosted by Toban group B on October 2.

DHARMA SCHOOL NEWS

On September 2-4, seven families participated in the annual Dharma School campout to William Heise County Park near Julian. The children played in the park and went fishing and hiking. In addition to s'mores and popcorn on the campfire, Leslie Seymour taught us how to make pudding cups, which were delicious!

The first day of Dharma School was on Sunday, September 11. We project having over 50 students this year. Rev. Mukojima also held chanting practice to prepare the students to lead the chanting for the Fall Ohigan Service on September 18. After classes, a welcome back reception was held on the terrace. Thank you to the DS staff members who made cakes and helped with set-up.

The Fall Ohigan Service was held on September 18, and the DS activity was teaching the children the gatha, "A Special Place," which will be in our new Service Book. The Service Book Committee met twice this month in order to send the book to the printer in time for presentation at the BTSD 85th Anniversary Service. Thank you to the committee members for their work and to Jamie Shimizu and Ken Muraoka for putting together our hard copy version.

There will be Family Service and the DS Teachers and Staff meeting on October 2, DS chanting practice and chanting led by the students during Family Service on October 9, and Family Service and DS on October 30.

On October 16, the BTSD 85th Anniversary Commemoration, Kie-shiki Affirmation Ceremony and Luncheon will take place. The Nursery class will provide entertainment during the luncheon. We would like as many DS students as possible to participate in the Ochigo parade. The DS students who are also Scouts will be asked to participate in the color guard leading the Ochigo parade. There are at least five Dharma School students who will participate in the Kie-shiki (Buddhist Name) Affirmation ceremony.

The DS Halloween Party will be on Saturday, October 22. Service will begin at 5:00 pm. Dinner and games will follow.

In Gassho,

Ann Ong, Assistant Superintendent

JUNIOR YBA SEPT-OCT REPORT

On behalf of the San Diego Junior YBA, we want to thank all of you who purchased tickets for the Obon Opportunity Drawing. The Juniors would like to acknowledge the businesses and individuals who donated to the opportunity drawing this year. Please thank and support these generous donors:

MRS. AGNES BENSON, HANAOKA RESTAURANT, JOHNNY & TSUNE HASHIGUCHI, ISLAND STYLE CAFE, JAPANESE FRIENDSHIP GARDEN, KANPAI RESTAURANT, KEIDAN FLORIST, MIKI HONDA of HONDA TOURS, MIRA MESA OPTOMETRY, NIJIYA MARKETPLACE, PEKING CAFE, RALPH, AVIS & BREVEN HONDA, RTA INTERNATIONAL INC., SEAWORLD SAN DIEGO and HAROLD & LUANN LEE. Special thanks to 3 D'S TRAVEL for donating the printing of the tickets.

On September 3-4, the group attended the annual Southern District Junior YBL Conference. This year the conference was hosted by San Fernando and Oxnard. The theme was "Journey to Center of You-niverse." Thank you to advisor Glenn for attending and driving the group up.

Each year, all the chapters donate to the Southern District Endowment Fund. This year the chapters decided to give to the BCA Japan Earthquake Relief Fund. The Southern District Junior YBL collected over \$2,000.

Wonton Sales and T-Giving Food Drive

Coming up on November 6 is our Annual Asian Food and Craft Fair (formally Food Festival). The juniors will be making their delicious Wontons. We are in need of help to wrap/prepare all the Wontons. The prep time is Sunday morning starting approximately at 8 a.m.

It's that time again for the annual Thanksgiving Basket Food Drive. We will be collecting non-perishable goods and accepting monetary donations through the months of October and November. The deadline is November 20. Please bring your food items to the temple and drop off in the boxes near the office, or contact any Jr. YBA member or advisor.

New Cabinet Announced

We are excited to announce the new San Diego Junior YBA officers for 2011-2012. The new officers were installed at the Ohigan Service on September 18:

President - Ryan Torio

Religious Chair - Mark Torio

Vice President - Anthony D'Orsi

Historian - Jonathan Guiang

Treasurer - Lauren Uchiyama

Secretary - Christina Guiang

Advisors - Glenn Torio, LuAnn Lee

Ministerial Advisor - Rev. Yushi Mukojima

We invite students from the ages of 14 to 19 to join our Junior YBA. Please see any of the officers or advisors for details.

ZENBU

Zenbu, the Temple's social adjunct, is pleased to present two activities in October. One is the return of Ballroom Dance lessons by Laura Yamamoto. Please see the separate article about these lessons elsewhere in this issue.

As in years past, Zenbu will also offer discounted tickets to the annual San Diego Asian Film Festival. The popular festival will take place at the Mission Valley Hazard Center Ultrastar Cinemas, Oct. 20-28.

For several years, BTSD has been a community co-presenter of several film programs at the festival. This year the Temple will co-present five titles. Please see the enclosed Zenbu flyer for descriptions and times.

Zenbu group discounted vouchers are good for any screening at the festival EXCEPT the Opening and Closing Night features. Those tickets may be purchased separately from Zenbu. Please use the order form on the flyer insert, call (619) 251-5856 or e-mail zenbu@cox.net to reserve as many vouchers as you need.

Sunday, Oct. 16, will be the last day you'll be able to purchase Zenbu vouchers. The full festival schedule is posted at www.sdaff.org

COMMUNITY SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

KIKU GARDENS SENIOR APARTMENTS in Chula Vista is seeking to fill the position of Evening/Assistant Manager. The position pays a salary and an apartment as compensation. The person does not have to qualify as a HUD tenant. For job description and more information, contact General Manager Steve Sato at (619) 422-4951.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS: BTSD THANKS YOU FOR RENEWING IN 2011

We had a few more members renew over the last month and we will catch up and thank them in the next issue of this newsletter, along with any future renewals before the publication deadline.

2011 Dues Cover 2011 Expenses - Please Renew Today!

For all our 2010 members, please understand that we count on your dues for paying our expenses from the start of 2011. As these are expenses we can't delay, we really appreciate your dues toward the beginning of each year if at all possible.

If this lump sum approach is difficult for you, consider converting to paying on an installment basis. We can make periodic and automatic charges to your credit or debit card to make it simple. Just call or e-mail the Temple, and a Temple member on the Membership Committee will be in touch.

"Almost" Members - Please Join for 2011

Are you "almost" a member of the Temple already? If you have thought about joining the Temple but always put it off, we make it especially easy to join now. We will even prorate the start of your dues for the months remaining in the calendar year. That is, if you join in October, we will prorate your dues to reflect only the last three months of 2011. And as before, installment payments make it easy to budget for this minor expense. See also our youth and seniors discounts. Just call or email the Temple, and a Temple member on the Membership Committee will be in touch.

BTSD Membership: Strength at Our Core

A strong and vibrant membership keeps our Temple strong at its core. That's why we really appreciate all of our members, and especially those of you who have joined or renewed in 2011.

SPECIAL LECTURE BY SOCHO OGUI

Please join us in welcoming Socho Koshin Ogui on the afternoon of Saturday, October 15, at 2:00 p.m. Socho Ogui will be speaking on "Shin Buddhism as a Major Religious Tradition in America." This event will take place in the Temple's Hondo.

We expect a large turnout, as the lecture will be publicized and open to the general public. This is a rare opportunity for us to hear Socho Ogui's vision of the future of our tradition.

Socho Ogui will also officiate the Kieshiki Affirmation Ceremony and the 85th Anniversary Commemoration Service the following day, Oct. 16.

THIS MONTH IS 85th ANNIVERSARY AND KIESHIKI CEREMONY!

On Sunday, October 16, the Buddhist Temple of San Diego will observe its 85th anniversary. A Kieshiki affirmation ceremony will be conducted prior to the service.

It is hard to imagine that five years have passed since the Temple marked 80 years of existence. Since 2006, the temple has hosted a Southern District Family Conference, embraced the addition of the elevator and terrace walkway connecting the Main and Annex buildings, seen the Jr. YBA host a Southern District Conference, seen an increase in attendance in Sunday services, grown its Dharma School program, expanded its outreach to the greater community, hosted many successful events including Bon Odori, Japanese Cultural Bazaar and Mochitsuki. Also, in 2011, we've seen an upturn in paid memberships.

Now it is that time again to commemorate another milestone in the Temple's storied history.

In his recent Dharma messages, Rev. Mukojima has spoken about the upcoming observance, encouraging Sangha members of all ages to receive their Buddhist name. Over 30 members will take part in the Kieshiki affirmation ceremony to be officiated by Socho Koshin Ogui, Bishop of the Buddhist Churches of America.

Following the anniversary service, a celebratory luncheon will be held in the Annex Hall. If you have not ordered your bento, please place your reservation with the office by October 9. The cost for the regular or vegetarian bento is \$10. A child's bento is \$6.

On Saturday, October 15, a special BEC-sponsored lecture will be held from 2-4 p.m. in the Hondo. Bishop Ogui will share his Dharma talk, "Shin Buddhism as a Major Religious Tradition in America." The lecture is free and open to the public.

Following the lecture, a dinner welcoming Socho and Mrs. Ogui will be held at one of San Diego's fine restaurants. To attend the dinner, please place your reservation with the temple office. Deadline is Oct. 12.

Please see the entire weekend schedule on the Back Cover of this newsletter.

Please contact the temple if you have any questions about the 85th Anniversary activities. We look forward to everyone's participation in the upcoming commemoration and events.

Gassho,
Ralph Honda, Chairperson
85th Anniversary Committee

LEARN BALLROOM DANCING

Who: ZENBU invites singles and couples of all ages, middle schoolers to seniors.

Why: To learn valuable, fun social skills with the added benefit of getting low-impact exercise for your body and mind. You'll leave feeling energized and happy!

When: Sundays, Oct. 2, 9, 23, and Nov. 13

Where: BTSD Annex Hall

Time: Session 1 only: 1:15-2:15 pm. The slow dances: fox trot, waltz, and tango. Session 2 only: 2:15 - 3:15 pm. The rhythm dances: cha cha, rumba, swing, and salsa. Both sessions: 1:15 - 3:15 pm. Learn to be cool with all the dances.

Cost: Session 1 only: \$10 per person per lesson (\$2.50 is a donation to BTSD). Session 2 only: \$10 per person per lesson (\$2.50 is a donation to BTSD). Both sessions: \$15 per person both lessons (\$2.50 is a donation to BTSD).

Professional Instructor: Laura Yamamoto is a charming and very energetic dance instructor at the Arthur Murray Dance Studio who makes learning to dance fun and well paced for young and old.

Assistant Dance Instructor: Mani Yamaguchi volunteers her many years of experience by offering helpful tips to men and women during the instruction and often stays afterward to give extra help and answer questions to those of us with "CRS."

Questions: Contact Junko Kajita: jkajita@yahoo.com or (858) 538-5738.

ASIAN FOOD & CRAFT FAIR IS NOV. 6

The Temple-sponsored event formerly known as the Food Festival or the Food & Music Festival, will be held at the Temple on Sunday, November 6, 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Please note the new ending time. There will be no Family Service on that day.

This first annual fundraiser will feature Asian style arts and crafts and (of course) our highly popular Chow Mein, BBQ half-chicken plate, Sushi, Curry, Wontons, and more! Pre-orders for the Chow Mein, BBQ half-chicken plate and Sushi are due October 16.

Come out and see all the wonderful items our vendors will have:

unique jewelry, purses, clothing, paintings, and so much more! Get your holiday shopping taken care of early. And please let your family and friends know about this great new event!

If you know of anyone who might be interested in being a vendor, please have them call Carol Baker at (619) 276-2651 or visit the Temple's website for an application. Space rental for this inaugural year is only \$35 and all proceeds remain with the vendor.

BUDDHIST EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

By Bill Teague, Buddhist Education Committee

BUDDHIST STUDY CLASSES (free)

Study classes are ongoing and you may join at any time. They are open to members and interested Dharma friends.

Buddhist Study Class A (*Shoshinge*, with Rev. Yushi Mukojima) resumes on Thursday, October 6 at 6:30 p.m.)

Buddhist Study Class B (*The Buddha's Wish for the World*, with Rev. Jim Yanagihara) will continue in October with the next session occurring on Friday, Oct. 14 at 10:00 a.m.

Study classes take place in the conference room (office level) of our main temple building. Please park in the lot and use the elevator or stairs to come up one level; turn right at the office. The conference room is all the way down the hallway on the right-hand side.

FOURTH SUNDAY INTRODUCTION TO BUDDHISM (free)

On Sunday, Oct. 23 and Nov. 27, Kaytee Sumida will present an informal single-class, one-hour introduction, talking about the basic teachings across all schools, more specifics about our Pure Land tradition, a brief history of our temple, and more. The introduction is informal with plenty of time for questions and answers. The class takes place in the Sangha Hall.

Attendees are invited to remain for the Family Service that follows in the Hondo. We offer Introduction to Buddhism to interested parties on the Fourth Sunday of most months except May and December.

2011 GOLF TOURNAMENT RESULTS

The 16th Annual BTSD Golf Tournament was held on Sunday, Aug. 28 at Eastlake Country Club in Chula Vista. Fifty one golfers had a very enjoyable day teaming up with friends and having fun chasing that little white ball on a pleasant Sunday.

The four-team scramble started with an 8 a.m. shotgun start. Golfers arrived at 7 a.m. to check in and wake up with coffee and donuts, practice hitting balls on the driving range, and fine-tune their putting. Then, it was off to play. After nearly five hours of play, all of the golfers assembled in the pavilion to dine on a barbecue lunch, hear the news of the winners and have a chance to win some great raffle prizes. The winners included:

First place team: Yuki Iwashita, Mako Mizuki and Dennis Otsuji.

Second place team (tie): Karl Kasai, Peter Masuda, Mike Ong and Ron Tokunaga; Ralph Honda, David Kawamoto, Wayne Nakano and Tim Take-shita.

Fourth place team: Roy Asaki, Tosh Honda, Rich Kaneko and Steve Kuriyama.

Front nine team: Steve Arata, Barry Morinaka, Ronnie Morinaka and Victor Yamauchi.

Back nine team: Eric Huff, Atsushi Kanomata, Allen Musni and Kevin Yoneda.

Closest to the Pin, Hole No. 4: Roy Asaki.

Closest to the Pin, Hole No. 7: Tosh Honda.

Closest to the Pin, Hole No. 12: Peter Masuda.

Men's Long Drive (75-years and younger): Joel Fujii.

Men's Long Drive (76-years and older): Roy Asaki.

Ladies' Long Drive: Margie Glover.

The winner of the first prize raffle, a 32 inch Vizio LCD HDTV, was Kevin Yoneda. Congratulations to all of the winners!

The committee wishes to express a tremendous thank you to the following sponsors and donors for making this year's tournament a big success:

Birdie Sponsor: Muraoka Enterprises;

Closest to Pin Sponsor: Howard and Kaneko Kuwada;

Long Drive Sponsors: Agnes Benson, Dennis and Elaine Otsuji, Tom and Sumi Yanagihara, Avis and Breven Honda;

Hole Sponsors: Miki Honda, Roy and Susan Yonekura;

Gallery Sponsors: 3D's Travel, California Bank & Trust Emerald Plaza Branch, Roy Asaki, John and Tsune Hashiguchi, Ron and Holly Hinderling, Trace and Mildred Kawasaki, Roy and Karen Okuhara, Motoo and Angie Tsuneyoshi, Sas and Jane Yamamoto.

Donors included: Coronado Island Valero, Eastlake Country Club, Four Points by Sheraton San Diego, Galaxy Golf, Ichiban Restaurant Hillcrest, Ichiro's Japanese Restaurant, Keidan Floral Designs, ONA Inc, RTA International, Kenji and Sachi Hiji, Mick and Norma Kubota, Harold and LuAnn Lee, Jeff and Kathy Sakai, Ron and Sheila Yagura, John and Linda Yamano.

Thank you to the following volunteers who helped out the day of the tournament: Trace and Mildred Kawasaki, George Yamamoto, Sas and Jane Yamamoto (especially for those delicious doughnuts), Roy and Susan Yonekura.

Net proceeds from the tournament will benefit the Temple's daily operations. We hope that all of the golfers who played this year, anyone who missed out, any new golfers and all our volunteers are looking forward to next year's tournament.

Gassho,

Co-chairs Ralph Honda and Ron Yagura

LABCC SUMMER CAMP

During August 6-13, ten youths from the Dharma School participated in the annual LABCC Summer Camp Program at Camp Morningstar in the San Bernardino Mountains.

The campers included "veterans" Breven Honda, Trevor Muraoka, Davis Ong and Sean Tokunaga. They were joined by newcomers Juliana Henschen, Evan Ong, Chad, Hailey and Jenna Sasaki, and Zoe Yamamoto.

Over 160 campers representing many of the Southern District temples and other Buddhist temples in the Los Angeles area, participated in numerous activities that included Nenju making, archery, canoeing, crafts, morning services, nightly campfires, sleeping under the stars, and swimming.

A Newcomer's First Camp

Mom Sharon Yamamoto shared 8-year-old daughter Zoe's first camp experience: *Zoe climbed aboard the "Nada Bus" to the San Bernardino Mountains with no hesitation, only smiles, obviously very comfortable with her Dharma friends and cousins. She chronicled her LABCC camp experiences via dad's old digital camera. She took some very cute movies and photos: her counselor, Kat, singing into a hairbrush in front of all the G1 cabin mates; Chad leading all campers in "Itadakimasu—I mean, Gochisosama!"; playing Apples to Apples, campfires, services, and funny faces. Zoe being Zoe, FOOD was a highlight in photos and memories. Her favorite dinner was lasagna (a revelation to her mom, who's never made it) and, hurray, she learned to eat celery sticks. Her favorite activity was arts and crafts. She came home with a half dozen half-done lanyards. All in all, Zoe had a great experience. She's looking forward to going again next year, and her sister Ava is anxious to join the fun in two years.*

As you can see, Zoe had a very busy and memorable first camp.

The BTSD campers would like to see Rev. Mukojima and his panda friend Putra participate in the future.

The post camp reunion is set for Saturday, October 16 from 6 to 10 p.m. at Orange County Buddhist Church.

LABCC Camp is geared for Buddhist youths ages 8 through 13. All of the campers are grouped by age and are counseled by YBA-age kids, ministers and a camp staff for the eight-day session. Dharma School families interested in the 2012 camp are invited to contact any of the families whose children were involved with this year's session.

BINGO REPORT

Bingo on Aug. 27th was fun. VFW had their \$1 hot dog and hot dog with chili beans. The turnout was good and was enjoyed by all.

Next month, November 26, 4:30-6 p.m., the Temple will have the last Bingo Dinner of the year. The menu will be announced. Come by, eat in or take home dinner to benefit the Temple, and stay for a fun night of Bingo.

NEW HEIGHTS UPDATE

Although active fundraising for the temple's New Heights project is over, the temple continues to receive donations to the project. BTSD thanks the many individuals and families who are completing their pledge this year. We also thank the many donors who have made gifts in memory of loved ones, and to donors who continue making monetary gifts.

At this time, the Temple would like to acknowledge **Harold and LuAnn Lee**; and **Katie and Kurtis Omori and Breven Honda** (in memory of their grandfather Ben Honda) as the newest donors of the project. The Temple accepts their gift with the deepest amount of gratitude.

If you have not made a donation to the project and are considering such a gift, please remember it is not too late to begin your pledge. Also, for those families who have completed their pledge but would like to continue making contributions specifically earmarked for New Heights, your gift will be greatly appreciated.

Please contact Ralph Honda or call the office for more information.

SUPPORT BTSD ON FACEBOOK

Last year, we launched a home page for the Temple on Facebook. We now have "likes" from all over the country, but we encourage temple members and Dharma friends who use Facebook to add BTSD to your "likes." You'll get announcements of temple-related news and updates and can post comments, too.

We also welcome our members to check the page regularly for errors or omissions or suggestions for improvement so we can maintain an appropriate presence in this popular media.

You don't even have to be a Facebook member to benefit from the information on our Facebook page! Use the link below to visit the page and click "like" to stay connected with the page. Visit often to find new information posted, make comments, ask questions, and so on.

Here's the link: www.facebook.com/buddhisttempleofsandiego.

Asian Food & Craft Fair

Sunday, November 6, 2011

11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

(Formerly known as the "Food & Music Festival")

Different name, same *delicious* food! The only addition will be the various booths filled with wonderful crafty items.

Everything from postcards & t-shirts for Japan Relief, to many different unique Asian style jewelry, arts, crafts & more!

Interested in having a booth at this year's "Asian Food & Craft Fair" OR would like more information about this event?

Please contact the temple's office to request a booth application form.

Phone: (619) 239-07896 E-Mail: info@btsd.net

Halloween is just around the corner!

Come out and join Dharma School students, parents & staff for our

ANNUAL HALLOWEEN PARTY!

Saturday, October 22, 2011

Service begins at 5 pm, followed by dinner, games & activities.

Don't forget to dress-up!

Bring your favorite side dish or dessert to share!

BTSD 85th ANNIVERSARY LUNCHEON

Sunday, October 16, 2011

Name _____

Telephone _____

E-Mail _____

Yes, I would like to order the following Bento for the luncheon:

| | | | |
|------------------|-------|-------------|-------|
| Adult Regular | _____ | x \$10.00 = | _____ |
| Adult Vegetarian | _____ | x \$10.00 = | _____ |
| Children Bento | _____ | x \$ 6.00 = | _____ |
| Total | _____ | | _____ |

*Please make checks payable to Buddhist Temple of San Diego. Reservation deadline is **Sunday, October 9.**

BUDDHIST TEMPLE OF SAN DIEGO

Membership Pledge for 2011

Renewal New Member Change of Address
 Mr. Mrs. NAME: _____ BIRTH DATE _____
 Mr. Mrs. SPOUSE NAME: _____ BIRTH DATE _____
 ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ STATES: _____ ZIP: _____
 PHONE : (____) _____ - _____ CELL PHONE :(____) _____ - _____
 E-MAIL: _____ OCCUPATION _____

Membership Pledge: The temple has an annual campaign to raise funds that go towards the Operating Budget. This budget pays for ministerial salary, programs, utilities, maintenance and the day-to-day expenses of running the temple. This tiered membership offers members the opportunity to choose their level of donation.

| | Sustaining Member | Dana Member | Wisteria Member | Bodhi Member |
|--|-------------------|-------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Individual/Senior/Youth (All Ages) | \$250.00 | \$350.00 | \$500.00 | \$ |
| Couple / Family | \$400.00 | \$600.00 | \$1000.00 | \$ |
| Optional: Senior Reduced Cost (75 yrs and older) | \$125.00 | | | |
| Optional: Youth Reduced Cost (30 yrs and older) | \$125.00 | | | \$ |

Recommended Annual Donations (Optional):

FLORAL OFFERING FUND (Suggested annual donation of \$30) \$
 The fund helps defray cost of regular fresh flowers for the Onajin (alter).

GENERAL MAINTENANCE FUND (Suggested annual donation of \$30) \$
 The fund helps provide upkeep of the Temple properties.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND (Suggested annual donation of \$20) \$
 The fund rewards member's deserving high school graduates and college students.

DHARMA SCHOOL (Suggested annual donation of \$20) \$
 This fund helps the Dharma School, which does not conduct fundraisers, to sustain its activities.

TOTAL AMOUNT \$

AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$

Please indicate payment schedule:
 _____ Annually _____ Semi annually _____ Quarterly _____ Monthly

To use credit card:
 _____ Visa _____ MasterCard Acct # _____ Expires (MM/YY) _____

Authorized signature (if charging): _____

Billing address if different from above: _____ Zip _____

Please make sure check payable to the Buddhist Temple of San Diego. A percentage of your dues supports the Buddhist Churches of America and is remitted annually to the BCA via the Temple. Benefits include a year's subscription to the BCA publication Wheel of Dharma and our own monthly newsletter. **THANK YOU!**
 Mailing Address to send your Pledges:

Buddhist Temple of San Diego
 2929 Market Street, San Diego, California 92102

For any questions about membership, please call the Temple at 619-239-0896 or send inquires to the Membership Chair at info@btsd.net.

Bussei Script

BUDDHIST TEMPLE OF SAN DIEGO

2929 Market Street

San Diego, California 92102

619/239-0896 info@btsd.net www.btsd.net

Non-Profit Organization

U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

San Diego, California

PERMIT NO. 396

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Do not postpone what should be done now. ~The Dhammapada

**BUDDHIST TEMPLE OF SAN DIEGO
85TH ANNIVERSARY WEEKEND SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

Sunday, October 9 Deadline for Anniversary Luncheon Bento reservations.

Wednesday, Oct. 12 Deadline for Socho Ogui Welcome Dinner reservations.

Saturday, Oct. 15

2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Special lecture by Socho Koshin Ogui: "Shin Buddhism as a Major Religious Tradition in America" (Hondo). Free and open to the public.

4:15 to 4:45 p.m. Kieshiki Ceremony rehearsal (Hondo)

5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Welcome dinner for Socho and Mrs. Ogui. Restaurant TBA.

Sunday, October 16

8:30 to 10:30 a.m. Kieshiki Affirmation Ceremony (Hondo). (Reservations now closed.)

10:30 to 11:00 a.m. Ochigo dressing (Sangha Hall)

11:00 to 11:15 a.m. Ochigo Parade

11:15 to 12:45 p.m. 85th Anniversary Service (Hondo)

1:00 to 3:00 p.m. 85th Anniversary Luncheon (Annex Hall)